

CLAIMS

1. A filter element to filter a fluid, wherein the filter element (14) is used in a filter system (10) comprising a cylindrical case (12), said element (14) including an absorbent paper material in the form of a sheet and said element is configured to constitute a tubular cylinder inside said case (12) in a manner to partition an outer radial part (26) from an inner radial part (30), the fluid moving across the filter element (14) in a generally centripetal direction, characterized in that the filter element (14) is devoid of a central core.

2. Filter element as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the mean inside diameter of the tubular cylinder is larger than $1/20^{\text{th}}$ of its mean outside diameter.

3. Filter element as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the mean inside diameter of the tubular cylinder is greater than $1/4^{\text{th}}$ its mean outside diameter.

4. Filter element as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the mean inside diameter of the tubular cylinder is between $1/3$ and $1/2$ its mean outside diameter.

5. Filter element as claimed in any of the above claims, characterized in that the mean inside diameter of the tubular cylinder is greater than 25 mm.

6. Filter element as claimed in any of the above claims, characterized in that the inside wall of the tubular cylinder exhibits a conical or cylindrical shape and a circular, polygonal or other cross-sectional shape.

7. Filter element as claimed in any of the above claims, characterized in that the filter element is fitted on its surface with at least one polarizing positioning means.

8. Filter element as claimed in any of the above claims, characterized in that the filter element (14) has a strip of absorbent paper material in the form of a continuous single sheet wound into a tubular cylinder.

9. Filter element as claimed in any of claims 1 through 7, characterized in that the filter element (14) includes a series of sheets of absorbent paper material which are interlaced to constitute a tubular cylinder.

10. Filter element as claimed in any of the above claims, characterized in that the sheet comprises several plies.

